

Dec. 23 1943

Mr Raleigh Mackey
1831 E. 53 St.
Los Angeles Calif.

Dear Mackey:

I wonder if you are surprised to receive this letter. I dont imagine too much so. I really had expected to hear from you before now. I have read where you had quite a lot of baseball on the coast recently. I do hope the color d boys stood out, and the prompters made some money.

Baseball for both Negroleagues was very good last year. The teams played good ball, and the attendance stood up well. Of course we have lost some mighty good men to the army, but that is to be expected. I guess Newark has suffered most, because as you know we always had a few good looking youngsters, and they are just what Uncle Sam wants. We lost Lary Doby the good looking youngster from Patterson, and also Leon Day last year. Day had a bad year, but we didn't like loseing him at that.

I am really writing to ask you if you are thinking of playing this coming year, and if there is any chance of you coming back to Newark. I am sure you have heard Ruffin is in the navy. He had an exceptionally good year last year. You would have enjoyed seeing him hit the ball, and for extra bases too.

I have just returned from Chicago. I was there during the time of the western league meeting. They are going to have statistics kept this year, by Wendell Smith of The Pittsburg Courier, and each time the league teams meet, they will be league games, no more exhibitions. This is progress. I hope our league will follow suit when we meet in New york next week. Please let me hear from you soon.

Very Truly Yours